



December 16, 2011

RE: Outfitted clients participation in wolf trapping

Governor
C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER

Dear Hunting Outfitter:

Chairman
WAYNE HUNSUCKER
Lucile

The Board approved the attached temporary rule regarding outfitted clients participation in wolf trapping at their meeting on December 2, 2011, and I received word that it was approved by the Governor this morning.

Members
TOM LONG
Boise

This rule came as the result of an extensive discussion involving representatives from IDFG, the USFS, BLM and several Board members. The Board's initial intent was for clients to participate in the trapping exercise itself; including handling the traps and the trapped animals. With this in mind, it is important to recognize that most wolf hunting and trapping will occur on lands administered by the USFS. The USFS objected to this more extensive activity without their going through a needs assessment or possibly some sort of environmental assessment.

LOUISE STARK
Challis

This rule confers a benefit to the industry of allowing outfitted clients to accompany a licensed guide during a wolf hunt where the guide checks his traps set for wolves. At this point, outfitted/guided clients would not be able to participate in the trapping exercise itself; but only observe. With this rule, the Board hopes to minimize an outfitter assuming they can simply provide fully extended "Wolf Trapping Excursions" to their clients, which could result in permit compliance issues with the USFS. In doing so, the Board hopes to avoid adding any additional controversy to the existing debate regarding managing wolves in Idaho.

CHRIS KORELL
Emmett

Executive Director
JAKE HOWARD

Additionally, similar to IOGLB's rules regarding outfitting, the IDFG has separate rules for "trapping" that are aside from their rules for "hunting". There are considerations with their trapping rules that were discussed; largely those involving mandatory training requirements that individuals must complete in order to trap. A consideration has been that it would be difficult for an outfitted client to complete this training within the time frame most clients have available. The Board's long term thinking is that the clients might participate in an outfitted trapping excursion and the trapping exercise itself, provided the guide is properly trained. IDFG is aware of this, and has indicated they are willing to be cooperative in addressing it and related matters in the future.

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*"Helping Protect
Idaho's
Natural Resources"*

Sincerely,

Jake Howard
Executive Director



Temporary Rule - Wolf Trapping Incidental to Big Game Hunts for 2012 Season

Only Outfitters licensed for big game hunting may qualify to provide wolf hunts.

a. Outfitters licensed for big game hunting may provide wolf trapping as a minor (incidental) activity as defined in 25.01.01.002, 23 and 28 during the course of big game hunting during any open wolf trapping season as follows:

i. The Outfitter or Designated Agent must have wolf hunting and wolf trapping properly amended to their outfitter license by submitting a major amendment along with certification of completion of the mandatory wolf trapping education class. The Outfitter or Designated Agent must complete the mandatory wolf trapping education class provided by the IDFG prior to allowing this activity to occur.

ii. Wolf trapping may not be advertised, promoted or booked as an outfitted or guided service.

iii. Outfitter or Designated Agent may not kill or allow domestic livestock or animals to be killed for use as bait while in their operating area or to use live animals as bait and will be otherwise expected to follow existing state laws regarding handling of domestic livestock.

iv. Outfitters may not directly engage a client in trapping activities. (see c i, ii, iii, iv, and v. for direction on activities clients may be engaged in.

b. **Guides:**

i. must be properly employed by and licensed as a guide to a specific outfitter responsible for big game hunts and incidental wolf trapping.

ii. must, in addition to other training requirements of hunting guides, have completed the mandatory wolf trapping education class and have a certificate of completion on file with the outfitter prior to the activity taking place and available for inspection by the Board.

iii. may, as part of outfitted, guided big game hunts, check their employing outfitter's or their own wolf traps as per state requirements.

iv. may not provide services to the same client for two different outfitters within a five day period.

v. may not advertise or act as an independent booking agent.

vi. all traps and other equipment used for trapping must be provided by the licensed outfitter or may be leased from the guide with a copy of the lease put on file with the Board at the time the guide is licensed to the outfitter or two days prior to the excursion.

vii. May not engage a client in trapping activities.

c. **Clients:**

i. must possess the appropriate tags to participate in a hunt.

ii. may hunt and kill any free ranging animal for which they have an appropriate license and tag, but cannot kill an animal in or within 200 yards of their Outfitter's or Guide's trapline. A trapped animal cannot be released and then hunted or killed.

iii. may accompany a properly licensed guide who is checking his outfitter's traps and must be directly accompanied by that guide at all times.

iv. may not handle or be involved with handling traps or trapped animals.

v. may only observe the handling of trapped animals being done by properly licensed guides.